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COUNTRY Korea

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT

Dismantling of Aerial Cable Transport Line in North Korea

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- 1. In November 1949, the North Korean authorities asked for volunteers from among Korean engineers to go to the USSR to inspect aerial cable transport systems there. Persons who volunteered received a bag of rice and 5000 North Korean won from the Soviets; persons who refused to join were arrested by the State Security police and shipped to the USSR by force, about 21 November, in a Soviet transport from Chongjin (129-49, 11-46). The duration of the inspection trip was set at two months.
- 2. When members of the party had not returned by February 1950, their families, who had had difficulty in making a living, inquired of the Ministry of Interior as to the cause of their delayed return. The only reply given by the Ministry was that the men would return within a few days. They had not yet done so by the end of March, and more parties of "volunteers" were being collected to go to the USSR.
-]. The aerial cable transport line which was built between Honggun (決 若) and Pungsan-myon (曹 山 面) in South Hamgyong Province, at the time of the construction of the Hochon (128-16, 40-44) River hydroelectric plant was removed by Soviet order, beginning in February 1950. By the end of March, half of the entire installation had been dismantled.*

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for a description of possible use of dismantled

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